

AMD17-138

4/15/08

**Bell, Leanne S (DOT)**

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**From:** Tom Williams [tcw-ak@gci.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 14, 2008 6:57 PM  
**To:** DOT STIP  
**Cc:** Hawes, David J (DOT); DOT JHQ Planning Comments  
**Subject:** DRAFT Amendment #17 to the 2006-2009 STIP

Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities:

I strongly support allocation of sufficient funding to ensure completion of the Lynn Canal Highway within the next five years. Completion of this project without further delay is critical to the short-term as well as the long-term health of Juneau. Completion of this project will also contribute to the long-term health of all of Southeast Alaska communities, since it will allow marine highway funding and vessels to be redirected to maintain and possibly improve access to all other Southeast Alaska communities. Please designate this project as the State's number one priority for transportation improvements in Southeast Alaska if not the entire state of Alaska.

The number two priority for Southeast Alaska should be the funding of the North Douglas Crossing in Juneau. While not as critical as the Lynn Canal Highway, completion of this project will not only allow rationale development within the Juneau Borough with the related economic benefits, it is critical to improving the likelihood that those residents of Douglas Island are not physically isolated from emergency services in a natural disaster.

Please place BOTH these projects at the top of the Amended STIP for funding and actively pursue completion of both as expeditiously as possible.

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